

MINUTES
VERNON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN HALL - 14 PARK PLACE - 3rd Floor
VERNON, CONNECTICUT

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2009 - 7:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM

A.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members Daniel Anderson, Bill Campbell, Daniel Champagne, Mark Etre, Bill Fox, Marie Herbst, Nancy E Herold, Brian R. Motola, Sean O'Shea, Michael A. Winkler

Absent: Pauline Schaefer, Harry D. Thomas

Entered During Meeting:

Also Present: Mayor Jason L. McCoy, Town Administrator John Ward, Recording Secretary Jill Kentfield

CITIZEN'S FORUM

There were no speakers at citizen's forum.

Citizen's forum closed at 7:31 PM

B.) PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO AN AGREEMENT ENTITLED "INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF FIRE MARSHALS".

Council Member Fox, seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion to open the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Public Hearing (7:32 PM)

Mayor McCoy called the public hearing to order to receive comments and answer any questions from the public.

Mr. Walker explained the need for the Public Hearing and was available to answer questions. Discussion took place with Council Members. There were no speakers from the public.

Council Member Fox, seconded by Council Member Motola made a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Close Public Hearing (7:35 PM)

C.) PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of the **Police/Fire Trophy** to Police Chief Kenny and Fire Chief William Call by Mr. John T. Garoppolo, Tournament Chairman, the Thirteenth Annual Fenix Memorial Bowling Tournament, benefiting the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation.

Mr. Garoppolo presented the Chief trophy to Police Chief Kenny and Fire Chief Call and thanked them for their support. He stated that this year's benefit raised \$13,000. He also thanked the businesses in Vernon and surrounding areas for their sponsorship.

2. Certificate of Appreciation presented by Mayor Jason L. McCoy to the Lake Street Cub Scouts Pack #21, in honor of their work at Valley Falls Park for Earth Day.

Mayor McCoy presented a certification of appreciation to Lake Street Cub Scouts Pack #221 and thanked them for their work in removing invasive plant species at Valley Falls Park.

3. Certificate of Appreciation presented by Mayor Jason L. McCoy to the Vernon Teen Center, for their work at Central Park and Cogswell Fountain in honor of Earth Day.

Mayor McCoy presented a certificate of appreciation to the Vernon Teen Center and thanked them for their work in landscaping Central Park and Cogswell Fountain in honor of Earth Day.

4. Mayoral Proclamation presented by Mayor Jason L. McCoy to Dr. April Little, Local Coordinator, Kid's Day America.

Mayor McCoy presented a mayoral proclamation to Dr. April Little for her coordination of Kid's Day America which is taking place on May 16, 2009 at CT Golf Land. The event is to educate the youth on nutrition, safety, health and the environment. The event proceeds will go to a child in the town of Vernon who suffers from spina biffeda.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Council Member Winkler pulled consent item #2 and Council Member Fox pulled consent item #3 for discussion. Motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda items 1, 4 and 5 as presented.

D.) CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- C 1. Request for Tax Refunds Prior Years and Current Year.** (A copy of the memorandum from Terry Hjarne, Assistant Collector of Revenue to John D. Ward, Town Administrator dated April 27, 2009 is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES FOUR (4) TAX REFUNDS TALLING \$474.68 FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, AS OUTLINED IN THE MEMORANDUM FROM THE ASSISTANT COLLECTOR OF REVENUE DATED APRIL 27, 2009 TO TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOHN D. WARD.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to approve the request for tax refunds prior years and current years in the amount of \$474.68. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 2. Request the Town Council approve budget amendments #28-#31 for fiscal 2008-2009, as provided by James Luddecke, Finance Officer.**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUESTS #28-#31 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009, AS OUTLINED IN BUDGET AMENDMENT FORMS PROVIDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the budget amendments #28 – 31 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 3. Request the Town Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Francis O. Kaplan, (R) of 344 Merline Road, Vernon Connecticut as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, effective May 6, 2009 and ending December 31, 2009, filling the unexpired term of Pat Settembrino that began January 01, 2007 and ends December 31, 2009. (An updated resume has been requested from Mr. Kaplan and will be at the table on Tuesday.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

PURSUANT TO CHARTER CHAPTER VIII, SECTIONS 1,6 &11; ESTABLISHED 01-01-1985; CGS § 8-4 a & b, THE TOWN COUNCIL HEREBY APPROVES THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF FRANCIS O. KAPLAN, (R) OF 344 MERLINE ROAD, VERNON CONNECTICUT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AS A REGULAR MEMBER, TO COMPLETE THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF PAT SETTEMBRINO, WHICH BEGAN JANUARY 01, 2007 AND ENDS ON DECEMBER 31, 2009. SAID APPOINTMENT IS EFFECTIVE ON 05-06-2009 AND ENDS ON DECEMBER 31, 2009.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Francis O. Kaplan as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission effective May 6, 2009 ending December 31, 2009. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 4. Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy to make application for the 2009-2011 School Readiness Grant. (A copy of a memorandum dated 05-05-2009 from Alan M. Slobodien,YSB Director to the Town Council and a memorandum from John D. Ward to the Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Town Council dated 05-01-2009 are included for your review.)**

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE ALL FORMS NECESSARY TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT SCHOOL READINESS FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$107,000 FOR FY 2009-2010 AND \$107,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to authorize Mayor McCoy to apply for the 2009-2011 School Readiness Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

- C 5. Request the Town Council authorize Mayor Jason L. McCoy to enter into and execute the necessary documentation required for an Agreement between the Town of Vernon and Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC for construction inspection services required in conjunction with the replacement of the Spring Street Bridge (No 04572) over the Hockanum River.** (A copy of a memorandum dated May 1, 2009 from John D. Ward, Town Administrator to the Mayor Jason L. McCoy and the Town Council is included for your review.)

PROPOSED MOTION:

THE TOWN COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER XII, SECTION 9, OF THE TOWN CHARTER, DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN TO WAIVE THE BID PROCEDURE FOR ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CONTRACTOR FAY, SPOFFORD & THORNDIKE AND AUTHORIZES MAYOR JASON L. MCCOY TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT FOR INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE SPRING STREET BRIDGE PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS (\$260,920.00).

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member O'Shea made a motion to authorize Mayor McCoy to enter into and execute the necessary documentation required for an agreement between the Town of Vernon and Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC for construction inspection services required in conjunction with the replacement of the Spring Street Bridge in the amount of \$260,920.00. Motion carried unanimously.

E.) IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

F.) PENDING BUSINESS

1. **Discussion with David Ignatowicz, Director of the Water Pollution Control Authority, regarding the WPCA Budget that was returned by the Town Council for additional review and reduction by the WPCA Board.** (A copy of a memorandum dated April 28, 2009 from Dave Ignatowicz, Director of Water Pollution Control is included in the Council packet for your review.)

Mr. Ignatowicz presented the WPCA budget recommendation to reduce object code 58400 by \$20,000.

Council Member Campbell, seconded by Council Member Etre made a motion to approve the budget reduction for a total WPCA budget of \$5,708,145.00. Discussion took place. Motion carried unanimously.

G.) NEW BUSINESS

None

H.) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

I.) ACTION ON ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED

None

J.) **DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Council Member Herbst made a motion to go into Executive Session for a brief discussion and update on wages for Non-union and union contracts presently in negotiation related to the 2009-2010 budget.

RECESS (8:00 PM)

RECONVENE (8:05 PM)

Motion failed, as there was no second.

K.) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 21, 2009 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Campbell made a motion to approve the April 21, 2009 minutes. Council Member Campbell requested a correction to the motion made on page 5 regarding WPCA – original motion passed. Motion carried with corrections, Council Member Herbst abstained.

Note: Please amend date of September 16, 2008 to read April 28, 2009

THE TOWN COUNCIL WAIVES THE READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2009 AND THAT MINUTES OF SAID MEETING BE APPROVED.

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to approve the April 28, 2009 minutes with the amended date to read April 28, 2009. Council Member Winkler requested the minutes reflect his concern about the final version of the budget may not be balanced. Council Member Motola and Council Member Champagne withdrew their motion.

L.) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
None

M.) **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Dedication Ceremony for the Restoration of the First Civil War Soldiers Monument, Sunday May 24, 2009 at 9:30 am at the Talcottville Congregational Church.
2. Report from Vernon Youth Services Bureau Director Alan Slobodien, dated March 2009.
3. Vernon Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer Guide 2009

Adjourn (8:11 PM)

Council Member Motola, seconded by Council Member Champagne made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Received:

Approved:

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Kentfield
Recording Secretary